



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2022-SCC-0101]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Application to Participate in Federal Student Financial Aid Programs (PEPS)**

**AGENCY:** Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a new collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2022-SCC-0101. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov). Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or e-mail and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the PRA Coordinator of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, LBJ, Room 6W208D, Washington, D.C. 20202-8240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Beth Grebeldinger, 202-377-4018.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* Application to Participate in Federal Student Financial Aid Programs (PEPS)

*OMB Control Number:* 1845-NEW

*Type of Review:* A new collection

*Respondents / Affected Public:* Private Sector; State, Local, and Tribal Governments

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 7,286

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 24,352

*Abstract:* The Department of Education (the Department) developed the Application for Approval to Participate in the Federal Student Financial Aid Programs to comply with statutory requirements of collecting necessary information under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. This new collection is a request to continue use of the version of the application that was last approved in 2019 under 1845-0012. That information collection is undergoing clearance to reflect the revision of the information collection as the Department transitions to an electronic webform housed on the FSA Partner Connect system. The revision may not be ready for implementation by the current form expiration date of November 30, 2022. The Department is therefore requesting approval of the currently approved form/format in this new collection.

Dated: August 1, 2022.

**Kun Mullan,**

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*Strategic Collections and Clearance,*

*Governance and Strategy Division,*

*Office of Chief Data Officer,*

*Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.*

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